# ADULT SERVICES COMMITTEE Minutes AUGUST 20, 2004 Charlottesville Virginia

ATTENDEES: Jack Wood, Sharon Koehler, Brian Parrish, Beverly Ball, James Martinez, Mary Kay Johnson

### I. Reviewed MHPC priorities.

The Adult Services Committee reviewed the priorities that were established at the last full council meeting to determine how these could be operationalized and applied to service for Adults in Virginia.

1. Educate Virginians about the need for adult services. We felt that several of the initiatives currently under review would facilitate this educational process.

The brochure on the Councils functions.

Enhancement of the MHPC section on Central Offices Website.

**Legislative Forum** 

2. Promote Recovery and recovery services for adults

**Discussion of Governors conference in December** 

Some members of council would like to be on planning committee

Review of definition of recovery for adults

Need to establish an ad hoc committee to review best practices

Need to clarify the purpose of a MHPC brochure

Who is going to develop the material to be used in the brochure

3. Become more diverse in our membership: Both entire counsel and Adult Services

Need to assess the status of this with membership committee

Need to assess who is routinely attending or not

Discussed that we had enough members but need to have better attendance

Ways to improve attendance

II. Adult Services Budgetary Recommendations for 2003/04 Carryover (\$30,000)

Summary by Brian Parrish, Co-Facilitator, Adult Services Committee

The Adult Services Committee respectfully submits the following suggestions and recommendations for funding using the remaining \$30,000 of the carryover of the MHPC budget. These final recommendations were based on the Executive Committee proposals from May 19<sup>th</sup> and July 12<sup>th</sup>, with some adjustment of figures. The Committee would like to thank Jim Martinez for his helpful comments and concerns regarding the budget, as well as for his attendance at our meeting on Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup>.

In the case of the \$10,000 suggested for Recovery Promotion Activities, the Committee recommends working with the Department to craft a specific line item budget for the total amount, and spending the money as soon as possible. Some possible ideas discussed were a "Connecting the Dots" model, to increase awareness of all the recovery-based models already available in the state, which include CELT, LEAP, VHST, and VOCAL's REACH Program, to name a few This project could include a website, Informational CD-ROM, or brochures and pamplets. Another suggestion was to make mini-grants available to localities or regions interested in making their systems more truly recovery-oriented.

The Committee also recommends that an Ad Hoc Committee be created and tasked with the project of initiating the Awards for exemplary services, if this item is to be finally approved. Furthermore, the Committee suggests that the Governor's Conference would be a fine place to distribute some of these awards, if the Council could plan for such an event in time, possibly using the upcoming Retreat as a springboard. We realize that this may be too tall an order in too short an order.

Finally, while the Committee supports all of the following activites, it currently seems to us that we are a diverse volunteer Council, and initiating and following through on them all might be a difficult undertaking. Therefore, we urge the Council to consider initiating a part-time administrative assistant to help coordinate these projects. Funds can be taken from any and all of the projects below that would be coordinated by said assistant.

\$10,000 Recovery Promotion activities

\$ 5,000 Award program for exemplary services in Virginia

\$ 5,000 CELT Advance Training for consumer mentors and leaders

\$ 2,500 Planning Council Brochure/ PowerPoint presentation

\$ 3,000 Develop a website, to be hosted by the Department

\$ 1,500 Hold a forum on mental health legislative initiatives for 2005 and beyond

\$ 1,000 Consumer Scholarship for Alternatives 2004

\$ 2,000 Clerical support for Adult & Children's Services Committees

\$30,000

# III. Extensive discussion of funding initiatives within the State

Olmstead Initiatives - Waiver Slots Discharge Assistance Funding Bed Purchase Allocations Regional Partnerships - Review Mental Health Block Grant -Review

## IV.

Reviewed upcoming calendar of events Children's Conference Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Mental Health Council Retreat Oct 22nd and 23rd Governors Conf. on Restructuring Mental Health in VA Dec 9-10.

#### V. **Discussion of Mental Health Block Grant**

Role of Adult Services Committee in review of plan Discussion on indicators of Service levels Upon extensive review there were no significant issues identified